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To: Examiner Joseph L. Perrin **From:** Michael A. Jaffe, Esq.
At: USPTO - Art Unit 1746 **Pages:** 7 pages (including this sheet)
Fax: (571) 273-1305 **Date:** November 1, 2005
Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 10/606,292 **O/Ref:** ST8618US

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☒ **Urgent** ☒ **For Review** ☐ **Please Comment** ☐ **Please Reply** ☐ **Please Recycle**

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 10/606,292

Dear Examiner Perrin:

As requested during our telephone conversation today, enclosed please find a copy of the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) that was originally filed on August 20, 2003. The PTO acknowledgement post card indicates that the USPTO received the IDS on August 22, 2003.

Please let me know if you need any further information to proceed with examination of the above-identified U.S. patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Jaffe
Michael A. Jaffe
Reg. No. 36,326

MAJ/lc

SHOULD THERE BE ANY PROBLEMS IN THE RECEIPT OF THIS TRANSMISSION, PLEASE CALL
(440) 684-1090 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THANK YOU.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE APPLICATION OF : Francois Lagace
FOR : WASHER PRESSURE EQUALIZATION
SYSTEM
SERIAL NO. : 10/606,292
FILED : June 25, 2003
EXAMINER : Not yet known
ART UNIT : Not yet known
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : ST8618US

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

1. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98, and in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, the Office's attention is directed to the patents, publications and other information listed on the attached form PTO-1449. A copy of each listed document is enclosed *except for* documents previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a prior application(s) relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120, said prior application(s) identified below:

Serial No.Filing Date

2. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made.

3. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(b).

4. Regarding each listed document that is not in the English language, an English-language translation accompanies this Statement as indicated on the attached PTO-1449 or a concise explanation of the relevance of the document is set forth in the following document(s):

- (i) Copy of each English language version of a search report by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office of each document being submitted from the search

report.

- () Attachment entitled "Concise Explanation of Relevance of Non-English Language Documents."
- () English-language abstract.
- (X) 5. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) this Statement is being filed:
 - () concurrently with the filing of the national application; or
 - (X) within 3 months of the filing date of a national application; or
 - () within 3 months of the date of the entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; or
 - () before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

{NOTE: Statements filed within the foregoing periods require neither a fee nor a Certification}

- () 6. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c) this Statement is being filed *after* the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits but *before* the mailing date of either: a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. 1.311, whichever occurs first. Accordingly, this Statement is accompanied by:
 - () Certification as specified in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e); OR
 - () The submission fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p). Enclosed is Form PTO-2038 authorizing the amount of \$180 to be charged to our credit card to cover the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) for consideration of this Statement.
- () 7. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(d) this Statement is being filed *after* the period specified in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c), but *before or concurrent with* payment of the Issue Fee. Accordingly, this Statement is accompanied by:
 - A. Certification as specified in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e); AND
 - B. The submission fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p). Enclosed is Form PTO-2038 authorizing the amount of \$180 to be charged to our credit card to cover the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) for consideration of this Statement.
- () 8. Statement filed *after* payment of Issue Fee, but *before* patent grant:

This Statement is being filed *after* payment of the Issue Fee, but *before* grant of the patent; accordingly it is understood that this Statement will *not* be considered.

However, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be placed in the application file. (NOTE: no fees or certification required)

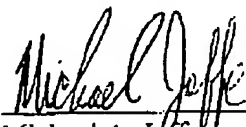
() 9. CERTIFICATION under 37 C.F.R. 1.97 (e) (if applicable):

- () The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, OR
- () The undersigned hereby certifies that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than 3 months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0537, identifying our Docket No. ST8618US.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 20, 2003

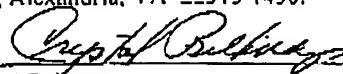

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referenced as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited on the below date with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: August 20, 2003


Crystal Belknap

Form PTO-1449
Attorney Docket: ST8618US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

In re application of: Francois Lagace

Serial No: 10/606,292

Group No.: Not yet known

Filed: June 25, 2003

Examiner: Not yet known

For: WASHER PRESSURE EQUALIZATION SYSTEM

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

U.S. Patent Documents

| <u>Examiner Initials</u> | <u>Document Number</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Class</u> |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|
| _____ | 3,785,387 | 01/15/1974 | Ross | 134/95 |
| _____ | 3,786,825 | 01/22/1974 | Weisner | 134/99 |
| _____ | 4,195,419 | 04/01/1980 | Quayle | 34/231 |
| _____ | 4,226,642 | 10/07/1980 | Baran | 134/10 |
| _____ | 4,820,351 | 04/11/1989 | Hambleton et al. | 134/21 |
| _____ | 5,464,483 | 11/07/1995 | Avelis et al. | 134/25.4 |
| _____ | 5,546,771 | 08/20/1996 | Bonar | 68/4 |
| _____ | 6,021,788 | 02/08/2000 | King | 134/25.2 |
| _____ | 6,090,213 | 07/18/2000 | Moyers | 134/1 |

| | | | | |
|-------|--------------|------------|--------------|---------|
| _____ | 2002/0159917 | 10/31/2002 | Swart et al. | 422/20 |
| _____ | 2002/0173437 | 11/21/2002 | Rabon et al. | 510/161 |
| _____ | 2003/0133834 | 07/17/2003 | Karl | 422/33 |

Examiner:

Date Considered:

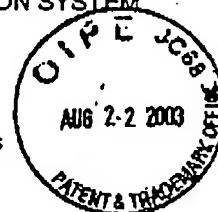
**Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

PTO ACKNOWLEDGEMENT POSTCARD

Date Mailed: August 20, 2003 First Class Mail
Application Type: Filed
Application No.: 10/606,292
Customer No.: 22203
Inventor: Francois Lagace
Invention Title: WASHER PRESSURE EQUALIZATION SYSTEM
Docket No.: ST8618US

DOCUMENTS MAILED:

- 1) Information Disclosure Statement & Citation - 5 pages
- 2) References - 12



Charge Account 50-0537 for any fee deficiency required by the filing of the papers submitted herewith.

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